

Application No. 09/676,502
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September 15, 2003
Reply to Office Action of February 13, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical~~ A pharmaceutical composition useful in the treatment of asthma, said composition comprising an amount of an extract obtained from the plant *Murraya koenigii* effective for treating asthma together with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable additive additive;

wherein said extract is made by a process comprising:

i) extracting fresh leaves of *Murraya koenigii* with a solvent to obtain a percolate, said solvent being selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon solvent, a chlorinated hydrocarbon solvent, an alcohol solvent, an ether solvent and an ester solvent,

ii) separating the percolate from the leaves, and

iii) removing the solvent from the percolate to obtain said extract; and

wherein the at least one additive is a powder derived from a plant selected from the group consisting of *M. paniculate* Linn, *H. abelmoschus*, *T. ammi*, *S. aromaticum*, *A. vasica* Nees and *E. hirta*.

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14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) The composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the composition comprises 80-100 mg of *M. paniculate* Linn, 40-60 mg of *H. abelmoschus*, 38-62 mg of *T. ammi*, 7-13 mg of *S. aromaticum*, 85 - 115 mg of *A.vasica* Nees and 90-110 mg of *E. hirta*.

16. (previously presented) The composition as claimed in claim 13, comprising:

<i>M. paniculata</i> Linn. Syn. <i>M. exotica</i> (KAMINI)	90mg
<i>H. abelmoschus</i> (JOWAN)	50mg
<i>T. ammi</i> (LAVANGA)	50mg
<i>S. aromaticum</i> (BASAK)	10mg
<i>A.vasica</i> Nees (PUSITOA)	100mg
<i>E.hirta</i>	100mg
<i>M. koinegii</i> (Suravi Neem)	100mg.

17. (previously presented) The composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the extract of the plant *M. koenegii* is present in the range of 87-105 mg per dose.

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18-19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the extract has active principles having R_f values 0.73, 0.60, 0.34 and 0.14 in chloroform and methanol in the ratio 19:1 and R_f values 0.60, 0.38, 0.24 and 0.15 in chloroform.

21. (previously presented) The composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the extract exhibits four peaks having retention times of 3.37, 3.49, 4.0 and 5.69 minutes in high pressure liquid chromatography over octyl decyl silane medium using methanol solvent and detection of absorbance at 254 nm.

22. (previously presented) The composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the extract obtained from the plant *M. koenigii* exhibits antioxidant activity.

23. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of asthma in a patient in need thereof, said method comprising:

~~the steps of administering to the patient an effective amount of a composition as claimed in claim 13 to a subject in need thereof comprising an extract obtained from the plant *Murraya koenigii* obtained by a process comprising:~~

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i) extracting fresh leaves of *Murraya koenigii* with a solvent to obtain a percolate, said solvent being selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon solvent, a chlorinated solvent, an ester solvent, an alcohol solvent, water and a buffer;

ii) separating the percolate from the leaves; and

iii) removing the solvent from the percolate to obtain said extract.

24. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the lyophilized extract obtained from *Murraya koenigii* is administered along with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable additive for the treatment of asthma.

25. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the mode of administration is oral for the treatment of mild or acute asthma.

26. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the dosage level of the composition is in between 325-600 mg twice daily for the period ranging from 3 to 30 days.

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27. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the dosage level is in between 325-600 mg twice daily for the period ranging from 3 to 15 days for mild asthmatic condition.

28. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the additive is at least one selected from the group consisting of *M. paniculate* Linn, *H. abelmoschus*, *T. ammi*, *S. aromaticum*, *A.vasica* Nees and *E. hirta*.

29. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the composition comprises 80-100 mg of *M. paniculate* Linn, 40-60 mg of *H. abelmoschus*, 38-62 mg of *T. ammi*, 7-13 mg of *S. aromaticum*, 85-115 mg of *A.vasica* Nees, 90-110 mg of *E. hirta*, ~~along~~ together with 87-105 mg of *M. koenegii* per dose.

30. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the composition comprises 90 mg of *M. paniculate* Linn, 50 mg of *H. abelmoschus*, 50 mg of *T. ammi*, 10 mg of *S. aromaticum*, 100 mg of *A.vasica* Nees, 100 mg of *E. hirta*, along with 100 mg of *M. koenegii* per dose.

31. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the composition comprises the additives *M. paniculate* Linn,

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H. abelmoschus, *T. ammi*, *S. aromaticum*, *A. vasica* Nees, *E. hirta*, and is also effective as an antidiarrheal, antiseptic, carminative, stimulant, antitussive, anti-bronchitis agent and for nourishment.

32. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the additives are obtained from:

bark or root of *M. paniculate* Linn; dried flower buds of *H. abelmoschus*; leaves of *T. ammi*; whole plant parts of *S. aromaticum*; root of *A. vasica* Nees and bark of *E. hirta*.

33. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 33 having an antioxidant activity, said composition comprising an antioxidant effective amount of an extract obtained from the plant *Murraya koenigii* together with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable additive;

wherein additives comprise powder or extracts of plants selected from said extract is made by a process comprising:

i) extracting fresh leaves of *Murraya koenigii* with a solvent to obtain a percolate, said solvent is selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon solvent, a chlorinated hydrocarbon solvent and an ether solvent;

ii) separating the percolate from the leaves; and

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iii) removing the solvent from the percolate to obtain said extract; and

wherein the at least one additive is a powder derived from a plant selected from the group of M. paniculate Linn, H. abelmoschus, T. ammi, S. aromaticum, A. vasica Nees, ~~E. hirta~~, and M. koenegii. Nees and E. hirta.

34. (canceled)

35. (currently amended) The composition as claimed in claim ~~34~~, 33, wherein the composition comprises 80-100 mg of M. paniculate Linn, 40-60 mg of H. abelmoschus, 38-62 mg of T. ammi, 7-13 mg of S. aromaticum, 85-115 mg of A. vasica Nees, 90-110 mg of E. hirta, ~~along~~ together with 87-105 mg of M. koenegii per dose.

36. (currently amended) The composition as claimed in claim 35, wherein the composition comprises 90 mg of M. paniculate Linn, 50 mg of H. abelmoschus, 50 mg of T. ammi, 10 mg of S. aromaticum, 100 mg of A. vasica Nees, 100 mg of E. hirta, ~~along~~ together with 100 mg of M. koenegii per dose.

37. (currently amended) The composition as claimed in claim ~~34~~, 33, wherein the additives M. paniculate Linn, H. abelmoschus, T.

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ammi, *S. aromaticum*, *A.vasica* Nees, *E. hirta* along with *M. koenigii* are used as an antidiarrheal, antiseptic, carminative, stimulant, antitussive, anti-bronchitis agent and nourishment, respectively.

38. (currently amended) The composition as claimed in claim ~~34~~, 33, wherein the additives are selected from *M. paniculate* Linn, *H. abelmoschus*, *T. ammi*, *S. aromaticum*, *A.vasica* Nees and *E. hirta*, in the form of bark or root; seed; fruit; dried flower buds; leaves; whole plant; and root and bark, respectively.

39. (canceled)

40. (original) An anti-asthma agent obtained from the plant *Murraya koenigii*.

41. (currently amended) A process for producing an extract comprising:

i) extracting fresh leaves of *Murraya koenigii* with a [hydrocarbon, chlorinated hydrocarbon,] ether or ester solvent to obtain a percolate,

ii) separating the percolate from the leaves, and

iii) removing the solvent from the percolate to obtain an extract.

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42-44. (canceled)

45. (currently amended) The process of claim ~~44~~, 41, in which the ether or ester solvent is selected from the group consisting of diethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, ethyl acetate and ethyl formate.

46. (previously presented) The process of claim 41, in which the extraction is performed for a period from 12 to 16 hours.

47. (previously presented) The process of claim 41, in which the solvent is removed under reduced pressure at a temperature of from 20 to 80°C.

48-51. (canceled)

52. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the dosage level is in between 325-600 mg twice daily for the period ranging from 15 - 30 days for acute asthmatic condition.

53-59. (not entered)

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60. (new) A method for inhibiting arachidonic acid oxidation in a patient in need thereof, said method comprising:

administering to the patient an amount of an extract obtained from the plant *Murraya koenigii* effective to inhibit arachidonic acid oxidation,

wherein the extract is obtained by a process comprising:

i) extracting fresh leaves of *Murraya koenigii* with a solvent to obtain a percolate, said solvent being selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon solvent, a chlorinated solvent, an ester solvent, an alcohol solvent, water and a buffer;

ii) separating the percolate from the leaves; and

iii) removing the solvent from the percolate to obtain said extract.